

# Madison Manor Citizen

[www.madisonmanor.org](http://www.madisonmanor.org)

*The newsletter of the Madison Manor Civic Association*

October 2014

## Presidents Letter

Hello and Happy Fall,

It is truly a pleasure to have the opportunity to serve as the President of the Madison Manor Civic Association (MMCA). My wife Courtney and I have lived here since we were still counting our daughter Chloe's age in months, and now she is a first grader. Our spirited son Duncan will be part of the first wave of kindergartners to walk the halls of the renovated McKinley Elementary School in 2016. We feel extremely fortunate to live amongst so many wonderful people in Madison Manor and to raise our family in such an engaged and down-to-earth community.

The Executive Committee met at the end of September to kick-off our planning for the upcoming year. It was a productive meeting with lots of energy and ideas on how to continue to make our community the best place to live in all of Arlington!

In many ways, Madison Manor is a "hidden gem" for most people across Arlington. When people are told we are the neighborhood surrounding McKinley Elementary you typically hear something like "Oh, yes, that's a wonderful school I know the area you are talking about." I have also experienced first-hand how we are the envy of other civic associations when they hear about our annual calendar of events, advocacy efforts on behalf of our fellow residents, or our very impressive membership numbers.

One of the main reasons why we live in such a great community is because so many people take an active role in the MMCA. The main objective of the Executive Committee this year is to continue to strengthen the coordination and communication with our neighborhood committees, activity coordinators, and neighbors so we are able to continue to offer a broad range of activities and effectively collaborate on issues concerning our community.

Our next **MMCA Quarterly Meeting on Tuesday, October 28 at 7:30pm** will be an "Open House" in the McKinley Library. We will be sharing plans for the upcoming year and gathering neighborhood input. The main component of this meeting will be the chance to hear from our committee and activity chairs to learn more about all the happenings throughout the year, share ideas, and learn more about how to get involved.

Finally, along with this newsletter you received our Annual Membership Form. It is time again to renew your support of the MMCA, and it's still only \$10. This nominal fee makes a critical impact on subsidizing your favorite neighborhood activities like the Halloween Bonfire, Easter Egg Hunt, Summer Picnic and Summer Movie Nights. Please pay your dues by December 15<sup>th</sup> if you want to appear in the 2014/2015 Directory.

Enjoy the beautiful Fall season and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Dave Blair  
MMCA, President

## October Calendar of Events

### Halloween Decorating Contest

Evenings of October 26 and 31

**MMCA Quarterly Meeting**  
Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30p

**MMCA Halloween Bonfire**  
Friday, October 31 at 6:30p

**Please Note:**  
The **Madison Manor Yard Sale** has been postponed until late April/early May 2015.

### MMCA Quarterly Meetings (McKinley Library)

Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30p

Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:30p

Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:30p

Sunday, June 7 at 5:00p

## MMCA Officers for 2014 - 2015

President	David Blair
Vice President	<b>Vacant</b>
Treasurer	Steve Elsberg
Secretary	Taylor Heim
Membership Chair	Carly Kelly
Past President	Jim Frison

## Committee Chairs

Bonfire	Judy Henderson
Civic Federation Delegate	<b>Vacant</b>
Egg Hunt	Nikki Baltatzis
Holiday Caroling	MaryLu Mahoney
Holiday Decorating	Last year's winners
House Tour	<b>Vacant</b>
I-66	Miriam Rollins
Memorial Day Parade	Adam Green
Movie Nights	Karyn Ewart
Neighborhood Conservation	Parker Harrington
New Neighbor Welcome	Maureen Yacobucci
Newsletter	<b>Vacant</b>
Newsletter Distribution	Martha Kile, Julie Stradling, Errin Matechak
Stream Clean Up	<b>Vacant</b>
Summer Picnic	Becca Barnes
Web Site	Angela DiBenigno
Yard Sale	Tara Claeks
Young Entrepreneurs	Dick and Cathy Brooks
	Tammi McKinley

## Madison Manor Citizen

Founding Publisher Jonathan Harmon

The *Madison Manor Citizen* is the newsletter of the Madison Manor Civic Association of Arlington, Virginia. The *Citizen* is reviewed by the Officers of the Association and published quarterly, generally in January, April, July, and October.

The *Citizen* has a circulation of 575 copies.

Deadlines for submissions to the *Citizen* are the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publishing. Exceptions to the deadline will be considered. Articles should be of general interest to the residents of our community and may be edited or rejected. Space is limited. Contact the Publisher.

The *Citizen* accepts advertisements. All ads need to be submitted in black and white, camera-ready form. Please contact David Blair at [mmcapresident@gmail.com](mailto:mmcapresident@gmail.com) for ad rates and sizes.

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## JOIN THE MMCA "ANNOUNCE" LISTSERV & MMCA "DISCUSS" LISTSERV

To join "Announce" and receive important community updates send an email to:  
**[mmcaAnnounce-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:mmcaAnnounce-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)**

To join "Discuss" and discuss neighborhood issues send an email to:  
**[mmcaDiscuss-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:mmcaDiscuss-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)**

## HELP WANTED

*Are you interested in filling a committee vacancy (see vacancies to the left)? Would you like to volunteer at an upcoming community event? Interested in starting something new in Madison Manor?*

Please email **[mmcapresident@gmail.com](mailto:mmcapresident@gmail.com)** to inquire about opportunities to get involved.

## Got News? Got Pictures?

*If you have community news or photos you'd like to share in our newsletter, we want to hear from you! Please send your stories or announcements.*

*News should be no more than 300 words in length and photos must be digital.*

## Newsletters Are Available Online

Check out our website at:

**[www.madisonmanor.org](http://www.madisonmanor.org)**

for posted newsletters and lots of great information.

## Community News

### McKinley Addition/Renovation Project Update

Dave Blair



As a result of the 2012 Arlington Public Schools (APS) system wide capacity and facilities studies, an expansion to McKinley Elementary School was proposed and approved by the School Board. The project started a year ago with the design phase and went through a Building Level Planning Committee (BLPC) process designed for community input and consensus.

Throughout this year-long process we had strong support of McKinley parents, Madison Manor residents, and MMCA representatives on the BLPC. We also received wonderful input and support from community members throughout the planning process, and particularly at the December community meeting. This collective community support had a significant impact on the final design plans and made a difference in very real terms!

I am happy to report that the Arlington County Board recently approved the McKinley Elementary School expansion and renovation plan. APS plans to build approximately 40,445 square foot of new additions at McKinley, in three locations, including:

- a primary addition - approximately 33,040 gross square feet - at the northeast corner of the existing building
- a secondary addition - approximately 6,261 gross square feet - to replace the existing pentagon addition on the southwest corner of the school
- 1,175 gross square foot addition to renovate and expand the main entry and school administration offices on the east side of the school

The project also includes approximately 8,835 square feet of demolition in the gymnasium and pentagon wing, for a net increase of about 32,250 square feet.

The primary addition will be faced with brick, glass, and fiber cement panels. It will provide 10 new classrooms, two new art rooms, and two new music rooms. In addition, the current gymnasium will be expanded to provide a place for the entire school community to gather. The gymnasium will have a stage so that it can also be used as an auditorium. There will also be improvements to the crosswalk in front of the school across McKinley Road and pedestrian access to 11<sup>th</sup> Street.

The estimated total project cost is \$20.5 million. It is expected to be completed by September 2016 with funding from the 2012 and 2014 bond referenda.

As a member of the BLPC, I feel the planning process was truly a successful endeavor. I believe the final plans approved by the Country Board will lead to a wonderful new school for our children, school staff, and will be a tremendous asset to our community at large.

I would like to extend a special thanks to BLPC committee members Ben Thompson, Errin Matechak, Grace Gan, and John Giambalvo for all their hard work and countless hours spent in the McKinley library for all of our meetings over the past year!



## Community News

### MMCA Spring 2014 Stream Cleanup Report

Hank Ickes

In prior countywide Four Mile Run cleanups, we've hauled-in plenty of plastic bags and food containers, lost tennis balls, things like that. And certainly, the Madison Manor team found enough of those items on April 26th, though with the heavy rain the previous day, we suspect more was likely washed downstream for other groups to retrieve. (We hope.)

Over the years, though, we've also found lots of things that might not have been expected, which is one of the more interesting aspects of the effort. I mean things like pieces of downspout and other building materials make an occasional appearance. And, automobile parts like mirrors, trim, and tires, as well as various bicycle-related items.

And given our proximity to the former right-of-way of the Washington and Old Dominion railroad through which I-66 now passes, souvenirs from that line occasionally appear (much to the delight of the railroad-buff side of me)! In the past, we've seen spikes and tie-plates, but this time Bob Edwards brought in something even I hadn't expected - a "fishplate" (see: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fishplate>), used to connect rails together. Well-done, Bob (he grinned)!

Thanks go out to Bob, of course, as well as Howard Hudgins, Aldo Sirotic, returning neighbor Barbara (Laughery) Craig, and notably the Ngo family who came all the way over from the Bluemont neighborhood for their help with the cleanup in spite of the good weather, which may well have, ummm, "distracted" others from participating.

The Arlington County Park Rangers want you all to know that they really appreciate all the time and effort everyone put into this year's Four Mile Run stream cleanup, and look forward to seeing a good turnout next year, also!

For myself, it's been a lot of fun doing this with you all over the years, and I'll miss you!

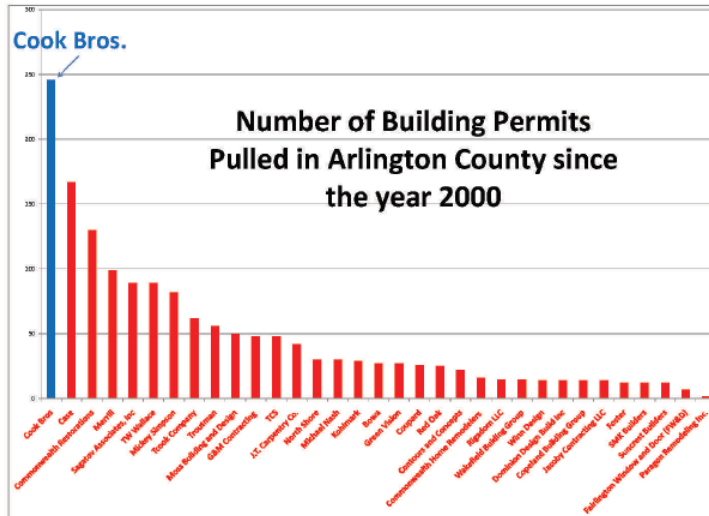
## Young Entrepreneurs

Need a helping hand? Contact these young entrepreneurs in our neighborhood!

<p><b>Regan and Braeden's Pet Care Services:</b> Homeschooled children available during the week, as well as weekends. Regan and Braeden have two dogs and a snake.</p> <p>They come to your home to walk your dogs and care for your cats and you can bring your fish and birds and hamsters for a sleepover. References include dogs, cats, rats, gerbils, a rabbit, and bearded dragons.</p> <p>To hire them, call: <b>(703) 237-6136.</b></p>	<p><b>Patrick's Pets:</b> Patrick (age 11) is available to watch your pets while you are away. Reasonable rates and references available. Willing to take small animals home for full-time attention. Can also pick up mail, water plants, etc. Dogs will be considered if they have a fenced in back yard.</p> <p>For more information, please contact: <b>703.237.7975 or dhramp@yahoo.com</b></p>	<p><b>Ben Celestino:</b> Interested in beginning piano or clarinet lessons?</p> <p>Contact Yorktown freshman Ben Celestino at: <b>571-438-8067, bcdcsports@comcast.net,</b> or visit his Facebook page: "Crescendo: Piano and Clarinet Lessons with Ben Celestino"</p>	<p><b>Corrie Steele:</b> (Age 16) Red Cross-trained Babysitter, Pet Care, Typing and Data Entry, Soccer Skills Tutoring.</p> <p>For more information, please contact: <b>703-532-2496 or Julie.steele@hok.com</b></p>	<p><b>Matthew and Alec's Twin Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Experience walking and taking care of dogs</li><li>- Raking</li><li>- Picking up mail and newspapers when neighbors are gone</li></ul> <p>References available upon request.</p> <p>For more information, please contact: <b>(703) 842-4821 or 703-869-4259</b></p>
<p><b>Laura Misra:</b> I am 19 years old and I am a Red Cross Certified Babysitter.</p> <p>You can reach me at: <b>703-533-1565 or lmisra@live.unc.edu</b></p>	<p><b>Jacob Hall:</b> (Age 14) is a tech geek. He can therefore help you set up your computer, network, or email. He's your neighborhood tech support!</p> <p>Feel free to contact him at: <b>totallyuneekemail@gmail.com</b></p>	<p><b>David Aronson:</b> Is a computer wiz and could hook up electronic equipment. David has done cat sitting and house sitting (checking basement after rain, water plants, etc.)</p> <p>For more information, please contact: <b>703-534-4718</b></p>	<p><b>Brian Taylor Steele:</b> (Age 14) Leaf blowing, Snow Shoveling, Dog Walking, Pet Sitting</p> <p>For more information, please contact: <b>703-532-2496 or Julie.steele@hok.com</b></p>	<p><b>Braeden's Mowing and Snow Shoveling:</b> Need someone to come over and mow? Shovel your snow? Braeden is experienced and at the ready.</p> <p>For more information, please contact: <b>regansmom@hotmail.com</b></p>

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All My Friends & Clients  
in Madison Manor*

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